



50 Joy Road
Woodstock, CT 06281

Phone: 860-377-0601
Fax: 860-812-2047

Date: February 8, 2011

Subject: Raised Bill No. 830 pertaining to the banning outdoor wood-burning furnaces

Dear CT Legislator and or Senator - member of Committee on Environment,

I am a Connecticut Citizen and Business Owner that conducts my affairs in the Wood Industry. I am also an outdoor wood-burning furnace owner that relies solely on its fuel source to provide heat to my families' home. I find it difficult to believe that in this age of searching for alternative fuel sources other than foreign oil, that we are scrutinizing a chief commodity and apparatus that is available to us here in our own state.

The reasons that my family chose this fuel source and equipment to heat our home came at a time when foreign oil prices forced us to think economically about heating our home and business. As this is not the only reason, it should be the most important.

Other reasons that need to be stated are as follows:

- Since the Wood Industry here in CT has been adopted by the Department of Agriculture, I have noticed that burning native species of timber in outdoor wood-burning furnaces could actually adopt the slogan of using its fuel source under the title "CT Grown". Timber is a renewable resource more so than any fossil fuel.
- Heating with wood has an effect of "Carbon Neutral" as is the case with biomass and possible wood burning plants for electricity. The study of emissions from an outdoor wood-furnace comparing that of a typical fireplace inside a home must use quotients of square footage heated and output over a 24 hour time cycle. These studies show the efficiency of an outdoor wood-burning furnace far exceeds that of a perfectly legal home fireplace.
- The heat produced by an outdoor wood-burning furnace has eliminated the risk of toxins in the house that could easily be produced by a conventional gas or oil furnace inside the home. Lives lost to carbon monoxide poisoning and property damage caused by indoor fires should at least if any show the positive safety protocols that are attributed to outdoor wood-furnaces.

In accordance with the regulations of Public Act 05-227 that stipulate chimney heights, setbacks, proper fuel wood, and "nuisance" outdoor wood-burning furnaces, there should be a retaliation against those "nuisance" furnaces. Legislation drafted to help those that find themselves in this particular situation is perfectly acceptable. This situation finds itself to be in more densely populated areas. These settings also do not lend itself to be suitable for these types of devices. As to more rural settings, and people and families that tend to utilize their rural type settings for wood fuel, this ban could be devastating. A compromise between thickly settled areas and that of the rural counties in regards to the proposition of BILL NO. 830, eliminating outdoor wood-burning furnaces as a viable form home heating, needs to be reached without taking such an adverse action.



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My home has been heated by wood fuel since 1845. In all those years it has not been heated more efficiently using wood as fuel then it has been in the past 6 years since owning an outdoor wood-burning furnace. I could only imagine the reaction of the first settlers here in New England to the notion that burning wood for heating a home would be deemed unlawful.

I STRONGLY URGE YOU TO OPPOSE BILL NO. 830, which will take away my right to use my outdoor wood-burning furnace that I lawfully purchased, lawfully installed, and lawfully use. Please let me know what other alternatives that I may use to keep my family warm this October, 2011 when the barrel of oil could reach \$200.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Hans', written over a horizontal line.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Rebecca', written over a horizontal line.

Hans & Rebecca Frankhouser
50 Joy Road Woodstock, CT 06281